

NOTES ON EUGENIA (MYRTACEAE) AND HALORAGIS
(HALORAGACEAE) FROM SOUTHEASTERN POLYNESIA
PACIFIC PLANT STUDIES 34

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Myrtaceae

Eugenia Reinwardtiana (Bl.) DC., forma *lutea*
forma nova.

A specie differt in baccis luteis.

Differing from the species by having yellow
drupes, while forma *Reinwardtiana* has red drupes.

Holotypus: Polynesia, Gambier Islands,
Mangareva Island, s. side of Mt. Makoto, crevice
of basalt cliff, 350 m alt., 1 m shrub, June 7,
1934, H. St. John 14,901 (BISH).

Specimens Examined: Polynesia, Gambier Islands,
Mangareva Island, Mt. Makoto, 380 m alt., June
4, 1934, St. John 14,881 (BISH); ditto, 290 m
alt., June 6, 1934, St. John, D. Anderson &
E. C. Zimmerman 14,892 (BISH).

Discussion: The fruits of forma *lutea* are
11-16 mm long, 11-14 mm in diameter, ellipsoid
to globose, with an acid, edible pulp.

The species is native to lowland and forehills,
and it occurs in Borneo, the Moluccas, Kangean
Islands, Kei Islands, Palau, Marianne Islands,
Yap, Truk, New Guinea, New Hebrides, Fiji, Samoa,
Tonga, Niue, Rarotonga, Tahiti, Society Islands,
Marquesas Islands, Austral Islands, Rapa, Pitcairn,
Gambier Islands, and Henderson Island.

Haloragaceae

Haloragis erecta (Banks ex Murr.) Oken, subsp.
erecta. Polynesia, Austral Islands, Tubuai
Island, Mahu, 0-10 m alt., 16-III-1977, N. L. H.
Kraussl, 497 (BISH); Raivavae Island, beach s. of
Pic Rouge, top of coral sand beach, 1 m alt.,
plant 1 m tall, Aug. 5, 1934, H. St. John &
F. R. Fosberg 15,922 (BISH).

This subsp. *erecta* is abundant from the beaches
to the lowlands, often in disturbed habitats ,
all over New Zealand; and it is also on the

Chatham and the Kermadec Islands. There it grows to a height of 85 cm, and has the pedicels 0.5-1 mm long. The fruiting specimen from Tubuai, Krauss 1,497, has the pedicels 2-3 mm long; and the Ravavae specimen, St. John & Fosberg 15,922, was from a plant 1 meter tall. In all other characters these collections agree with those of subsp. erecta, as delimited in the monograph by Orchard, (Auckland Inst. & Mus., Bull. 10: 1-299, 1975). It is likely that the more northern and warmer localities in the Austral Islands account for the growth to a larger stature and with longer peduncles. The foliage tallies with the leaves shown in Orchard's figs. 43, 44, and 45, and the fruit with his fig. 48.

It is worthy of comment that in Orchard's key (p. 66) the heading, "7. Lamina ovate to orbicular." which leads to H. erecta, makes no provision for the common, typical, lanceolate shape of the blades.

The Austral Islands lie about 1,500 nautical miles to the northeast of New Zealand. This barrier of open ocean is a broad one. The dispersal of this species to the northeast might have been by sea flotation, but more likely was by bird transport.